

## Two of city's dirtiest cops were subject of dozens of complaints

By Frank Man

Staff Reporter

Two of Chicago's dirtiest cops are at the top of a list of police officers who had generated more than 10 mis- conduct complaints between 2001 and 2006, according to newly released records.

Keith Herrera and Jerome Finnigan were members of a crew of rogue police officers convicted of home invasions and rip-offs of drug dealers. Finnigan was convicted in federal court of seeking to have a fellow officer murdered because he thought the cop was a rat.

Herrera was cooperating with law enforcement authorities investigating the crew. He served a short prison sentence, and Finnigan remains behind bars.

According to a list released Tuesday, Herrera was the subject of 53 citizen complaints over the five-year period; Finnigan was named

in 52 complaints. The police department didn't take any action on any of those complaints, except for a 2003 complaint against Herrera in which he received a reprimand. The top four officers on the list were members of the now notorious Special Operations Section, which was disbanded after allegations of corruption.

Herrera and Finnigan also were on a separate list of officers who had received five or more complaints of excessive force between 2002 and 2008. Herrera had 14 complaints, and Finnigan had eight. No action was taken against Herrera. The police department sustained one of the complaints against Finnigan, but he didn't serve a penalty because he resigned from the department, according to a list released Tuesday.

Finnigan resigned after his arrest in 2007. "My bosses knew what I

was doing out there," he told

Judge Blanche Manning at his sentencing in 2011 when he received a 12-year prison term.

Herrera was sentenced to two months in federal custody in 2012 because of his cooperation.

On Tuesday, the city turned

over a batch of documents — including the list of 682 officers — to independent

journalist Jamie Kalven, who had filed an Illinois Freedom

of Information Act request to obtain them.

"After seven years of litiga-

tion during which the Kal-

ven legal team argued that

documents of this nature are

against Herrera. The police

public, it gives me deep satis-

faction today to complete the

process of making them so,"

Kalven wrote on his website,

whose address is *theinvisibleinstitute*.

The FOP sought an injunction to keep the city from re-

leasing a 2006 list of officers

placed in the city's Behavioral

Intervention System and Per-

sonnel Concerns Program

until the union could review

the list for accuracy.

Under the settlement, the

city will release the list but will

note that 36 officers success-

fully challenged being placed

in the programs, and their en-

rollment in the programs was

removed from their personnel

records in 2008.

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